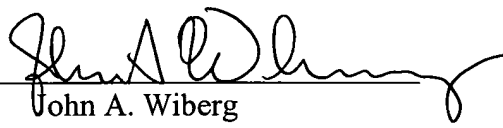


**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**  
**(Our Case No. 13479US04)**

In the Matter of:	)	Confirmation No.: 8530
	)	
Oscar E. Agazzi	)	Customer No.: 23446
	)	
Serial No.: unassigned	)	<b><u>EXPRESS MAIL</u></b>
	)	
Filed: unassigned	)	Express Mail Label No.: <u>EL 848970200 US</u>
	)	
Examiner: D.V. Ha	)	Date: <u>January 29, 2004</u>
	)	
Group Art Unit: 2634	)	
	)	
For: STARTUP PROTOCOL FOR	)	By: 
HIGH THROUGHPUT	)	John A. Wiberg
COMMUNICATIONS	)	Reg. No. 44,401
SYSTEMS	)	

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MS: Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits this Preliminary Amendment in connection with the above newly filed continuation application. Please amend the above-identified application as indicated on the following pages.

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3.

Remarks begin on page 9.